all workers * *all industries*

Industrial Worker

Education · Organization · Emancipation

vol.90 no. 1561 JULY 1993 ONE DOLLAR

Los Angeles IWW Forms Shop

Applies for NLRB Election

On the morning of June 11, 1993 IWW Delegate Andrew Willett filed signature cards with the National Labor Relations Board, requesting a union election for the employees at Aron's Records where 39 workers including fw Willett are underpaid, not respected, have no benefits, are fed up and have opted to organize with the IWW.

This is the first Los Angeles IWW Job Shop in several decades. Since a total of 6 Aron's workers have already joined the IWW, they already qualify for an IWW Job Shop Charter in the Industrial Union 660.

A hard fight is expected to win the election for NLRB certification, and a campaign of letter writing to the owners of the business may be one of the best guards against retaliatory firings. If management feels that a lot of eyes are watching them, they may obey the law.

Please write to the owners on behalf of the workers. If you wish to support the effort here in some other way, please contact the Los Angeles General Membership Branch. The address is on page 2 in the IWW Directory, and the telephone number is (213) 255-9094. Look for more news soon!

(X341813)

Please write letters to:
Jesse Klempner, Sue Klempner and Manny Aron
Aron's Records
1150 N. Highland Ave.
Los Angeles CA 90038

Politely insist that the owners respect the right of workers to organize a labor union.

RETAIL MUST GO ON!

Adapted by Andrew Willett from "Hurry Hurry Hurry".
Tune: "John Brown's Body."

Mine eyes have seen the glory
of an open record store
Where each worker is expected
to do the work of four
It's "you're late, do this do that,"
and "can't you do some more?"
When retail must go on!

Chorus:
Hurry hurry hurry hurry
Hurry hurry hurry hurry
Hurry hurry hurry hurry
When retail must go on!

I've often watched the boss
leaving for a leisure night
On the way he raids the safe
and the cash he holds it tight
But I'm stuck here till close
and I'll be back in morning's light
When retail must go on!

When I ask 'em for a raise they think
that I'm a greedy jerk
They say that I should be content
to have such glam'rous work
Well if glamour paid my rent
I might not be so prone to shirk
When retail must go on!

The customers crowd the store and
there's no rest at the till
The boss thinks I'm dumb, says there's
no money for raises still
But we'll form a mighty Union
and we'll bend him to our will
When retail must go on!

And he'll worry worry worry worry
Worry worry worry worry
Yes he'll worry worry worry worry
When retail must go on!



Lehigh Valley IWW members passed out leaflets May 22 at Phillips Van Heusen (PVH) outlets. Their action was part of an international campaign by the Guatemala Labor Education Project.

Farewell Fellow Worker

Cesar Chavez

March 31, 1927 - April 22, 1993

The red and black eagle banner of the United Farm Workers flew at half staff, in tribute to a true friend of labor. After a lifetime in "La Causa," Cesar Chavez died April 22 in the border town of San Louis, Arizona.

At 20 years old, with $20 and a paper bag full of union buttons, Senor Chavez began organizing for labor from the border towns of the Rio Grande, north to Chicago.

Senor Chavez walked with respect throughout life amongst his fellow workers, illuminating the road to workers emancipation. As a guiding force in the United Farm Workers, Senor Chavez will be remembered for the improved sanitary and working conditions he helped win in the fields for itinerant farm workers. --X333479

On Cesar Chavez

When Harry Anderson asked me to drive down to Cesar Chavez's funeral in Delano, I felt an urge to pay homage to a man I considered the greatest person I had ever met. The union he founded in 1962, and once had 100,000 members, had now dwindled to 20,000. The UFW helped the entire nation, by getting some pesticides and fungicides banned.

Memories of my 2 years with the UFW flooded back. Cesar was the best boss I ever had; always considerate, he never gave an order but asked politely if you would do something.

Actions on the picket line, huge demonstrations, music, companionship of fellow fighters for "La Causa" -- made you feel life was worth living. One thing I didn't like was the union's later practice of clapping in unison, with its military appearance.

30,000 people, mostly Mexican-American farm workers, attended the ceremonies, near the scene of the first big strike in 1965. Perhaps UFW's greatest contribution was helping create a better solidarity and love among people. I decided to sit up with thousands of others for the all-night vigil. A series of brief Masses were interspersed with music -- "De Colores," "We Shall Not Be Moved," and Ralph Chaplin's "Solidarity Forever" in Spanish and English -- the IWW was alive here!

I supported the UFW through the years. The only qualms I had were its emphasis on religion, the hero-worship of Cesar and his long tenure as official chief. I've never quite made up my mind on revolving leadership. Would the IWW have done better or worse without Vincent St. John leading it from 1908 to 1914? According to the late Fred Thompson, IWW's highest membership was in 1923 when most of its top leaders were in prison, and officers were restricted to one term in office. An effective leader such as Chavez could have been hired as chief organizer instead of continuing as president; but the essential point is who makes the final decisions, and this should be done on a democratic basis.

The hard working Chavez deserved hero-worship if anyone did. While the IWW has been correct to downplay hero-worship, it is to an extent inevitable; the fame of the great Wobbly martyrs has done much to gain support for the IWW.

Next morning a march began, 5 abreast, a mile long. Then came the ceremonies, followed by big shots making speeches, and music. The crowd sang union songs, finishing with "Huelga en General" (The General Strike). I recalled October, 1965 -- after a long day on the picket line a few of us were sipping beer in People's Cafe. Suddenly Luis Valdez burst in with "Huelga en General," which he had just written; we were the first to sing it. A fitting end, and a reminder that the spirit of Cesar Chavez, like the IWW, will never die. Viva La Causa! *--Eugene Oregon*

UTOPIAN SOCIALISM: HOW NOT TO BRING ABOUT THE REVOLUTION

Book Review by X341878

We *Can* Change the World: The Real Meaning of Everyday Life, by David Stratman. New Democracy Books (Box 427, Boston MA 02130), $11.70 post-paid.

David Stratman has taken on a large task. In the wake of the collapse of "socialism" in Eastern Europe, the Soviet Union and the organized Left in the United States, he wants to put revolution back on the agenda. Stratman's goal is "to show that we *can* triumph over the system to create a truly democratic society" (p. 1), to show that revolution is possible *and* desirable.

Stratman starts with a simple argument: while no one worker may grasp the whole picture, they collectively understand perfectly how "the system" works and who benefits from it. Moreover, working people embrace a common set of values. They are opposed to competition and elite rule, and are for equality and solidarity. And when they act collectively, working people, by virtue of their values-- radically in opposition to the official values of capitalism-- are in struggle against capitalist society. In other words, the collective actions of working people are, by nature, revolutionary.

But working-class values are not simply the values of the workers as a specific group of people. They are inherently human values. In contrast, capitalism, which seeks to isolate people one from another and set them in desperate competition with each other, is inherently anti-human-- it embodies values which deny and destroy people's humanity. Central to Stratman's argument is that capitalists and workers are fundamentally antagonistic, and that this antagonism stems from a conflict of values-- collective, cooperative and caring values of the workers as against the individualistic, competitive and exploitative values of employers.

To complete the revolution (which, for Stratman, is already underway to the extent that class struggle goes on), the working class as a class must become conscious of the fact that the conflict they are engaged in is a conflict of values, of visions of how people should live; and must organize and act in a way consonant with their (naturally human) values. On this basis Stratman criticizes labor unions as they presently stand as being, at base, organizations for the capitalist management of the workers by the union leadership. It is also on this basis that Stratman criticizes the Left for viewing the working class as "a passive mass, motivated only by economic interests..." (p. 93) and needing revolutionary parties of this-or-that variety in order to be told how to be revolutionary. Stratman traces this elitist contempt for the passive masses to Marx's analysis of capitalism.

In Stratman's view, Communism and the Marxist Left betray the revolution because Marx's historical materialism-- viewing society as driven by economic forces operating independently of the wills of particular agents, and humans as motivated exclusively by individual economic interests-- denies the working class the ability to act collectively on their own in the name of anti-capitalist values.

Stratman says much that is true. Yes, workers and employers are fundamentally at odds with each other. Yes, workers are capable of overthrowing capitalism by themselves. Yes, the Left, on the whole, is elitist and contemptuous of workers. Nevertheless, I found *We Can Change the World* very dissatisfying.

...continued on page 10

LETTERS

Baton Rouge Strike

Dear Fellow Workers,

We of the Baton Rouge Wobblies are writing to ask your support of striking members of the United Food and Commercial Workers Union, Local 210, AFL-CIO. Since late April, they have been striking against National Tea Co. of New Orleans. The parent company of National Tea is Loblaw of Canada. We have been joining workers on their picket lines and talking personally to store managers letting them know that they won't see a red cent from us. National Tea has stopped all contract negotiations and has hired replacements for all the strikers. They have also launched an aggressive campaign to stupefy the public. The strikers are hanging in bravely. From what we hear, the present fat cat down in New Orleans, a certain Mr. Sykes has been trying to bust the union for some time now.

Of course we are supporting a total boycott of National Tea stores. We need to make sure that the Loblaw big shots know what asses the National Tea managers are down here. Boycott Loblaw's and make sure they know why!

BOYCOTT LOBLAWS BOYCOTT PRESIDENT'S CHOICE

For Worker Solidarity
Stephen Donahue, X341971

Express your support of the striking workers and ask that National Tea Co. negotiate with them: **National Tea Co., PO Box 23528, Harahan LA 70183**

R.L. Currie, President, Loblaw Companies Ltd. 22 St. Clair Ave E, Toronto ON M4T 2SB

They keep trying to shut it down...

Fellow Workers,

I just wanted to update you on the progress of my research. So far, I've discovered that the current *Industrial Worker* is descended from several different IWW papers. Here's how the family tree goes: The first *Industrial Worker* was published in Chicago, starting in 1906. It lasted until 1907, when it was succeeded by the *Industrial Union Bulletin*, also published in Chicago.

A second IW, published in Spokane, WA, replaced the *Bulletin*, which folded in 1913. A Seattle IW began publication in 1917; a Chicago IW started a year later.

The Chicago and Seattle IW's were suppressed under World War I sedition and espionage laws. They resumed publication in 1919, just as the "Great Red Scare" and another round of IWW suppression began.

As for the "volume 90" on the masthead, an archivist at Wayne State U. explained that sometimes volumes were numbered anew when an editor or location changed, and frequently volume numbers were omitted altogether or put down incorrectly.

I was not surprised to learn that IW editors were frequent targets of federal agents. Old-time IW editors were jailed when their papers were suppressed; agents also confiscated IWW funds. All in all, the government made it hard to put out an IWW paper.

I'm still excited about this project. There have been quite a few books written about the IWW, but nothing on the history of the Industrial Worker I've been able to turn up.

--Berry Craig

LETTERS continued on Page 9

IWW Industrial Union Directory

FOREST WORKERS IU 120

IU120 Aardvark Sawmill Co. -David Everest, PO Box 54 Balfour BC V0G 1C0 Canada. (604)229-4978

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION WORKERS IU 330

IU330 Custom Wood Screen Doors Artisan Shop- Paul Kay, 606 Alamo Pintado #3262, Solvang CA 93463. (805)688-0123

PRINT & PUBLISHING WORKERS IU 450

IU450 Blackbird Design Job Shop -394 Euclid Ave. #301, Toronto ON M6G 2S9 Canada. (416)941-9945

IU450 Harbinger Publications Job Shop -Delegate: Merll Truesdale, 18 Bluff Rd., Columbia SC 29201 (803)254-9398

IU450 Lakeside Press Job Shop -1334 Williamson, Madison WI 53703. (608)255-1800

IU450 New Earth Press Job Shop -1921 Ashby Ave. Berkeley CA 94703. (510)549-0176

IU450 P&L Printing Job Shop -2298 Clay, Denver CO 80211. (303)433-1852

IU450 Street of Crocodiles Letter Press Job Shop PO Box 20610, Seattle WA 98102. (206)726-5924

IU450 Typesetting Etc. Job Shop -1095 Market St. #210, San Francisco CA 94103

FOOD WORKERS IU 460

IU460 Fairhaven Co-operative Flour Mill Job Shop 1115 Railroad Ave., Bellingham, WA 98225

MARINE TRANSPORT WORKERS IU 510

IU510 West Coast MTW -- Sea Dive Job Shop Delegate: Colin Dewey 60 Walter St. San Francisco CA 94114

FREIGHT TRANSPORT WORKERS
MARITIME IU510 - RAIL IU520 - TRUCKING IU530
MUNICIPAL IU540 -- AIR IU550

Industrial Transportation Research & Organizing Project Arthur J. Miller, PO Box 5464 Tacoma WA 98415-0464

EDUCATION WORKERS IU 620

IU620 Education WOB (Workers Organizing Bulletin) EWIU 620, PO Box 762, Cortland NY 13045

IU620 UCBerkeley Recyclers Job Branch 620 Eshleman, Berkeley CA 94720

ENTERTAINMENT WORKERS IU 630

IU630 General Organizing Committee Coordinator Jim Barclay 75A Elm St., Worcester MA 01609

IU630 Boulevard Bingo Job Shop -Delegate: Tina Gaffney (215)821-5622

IU630 Buskers Rag Newsletter PO Box 1400, Brewster MA 02631

IU630 The Living Theatre Job Shop -PO Box 20180, New York NY 10009 - 8959. Tel: (212)865-3957 Fax: (212)865-3234

IU630 Musicians & Performing Artists Reference Library -Worcester Public Library, Salem Square, Worcester MA 01608

IU630 SF Bay Area Jazz Musicians' Service Organization (510)704-0234

IU630 Workers Stories & Workers Lives Job Shop c/o SE Michigan GMB, 7252 Kendal, Dearborn MI 48126

GENERAL DISTRIBUTION WORKERS IU 660

IU660 Aron's Records Job Shop- Los Angeles CA. delegate: Andrew Willett (213)255-9094

IU660 Jura Books Job Shop -110 Crystal St. Petersham, Sydney NSW, Australia

IU660 Time Tested Books Job Shop 1114 -- 21st. Street, Sacramento CA 95814. (916)447-5696

IU660 Wooden Shoe Books & Records Job Shop 112 S. 20th St. Philadelphia PA 19103. (215)569-2477

PUBLIC SERVICE WORKERS IU 670

IU670 Ann Arbor Tenants Union Job Shop 4001 Michigan Union, Ann Arbor MI 48109. (313)763-6876

IU670 Berkeley Recycling Center Job Shop M. Carlstroem, 2515 Piedmont #8, Berkeley CA 94607.

IU670 Socialist Party USA Nat'l Office Job Shop 516 W. 25th St. #404, New York NY 10001.(212)691-0776.

The Cutting Edge of Industrial Democracy

Industrial Worker Coordinator: PO Box 4217, Stn E, Ottawa ON K1S 5B2 Canada. Deadline for copy, 10th of each month. Tel: (613) 231-2922.
E-Mail: indwrk@web.apc.org
International & Book Reviews Editor: PO Box 762, Cortland NY 13045.
E-Mail: jbekken@apc.igc.org
Denver IW Editors: 2412 E. Colfax, Denver CO 80206.
Peace/Nukes/Conversion Editor: 3144-22nd St., San Francisco CA 94110.
E-Mail: iww@igc.apc.org
Chicago IW Editors; Literature Dept: 1476 Irving Park, Chicago IL 60613.
E-Mail: jditz@igc.apc.org
Mail Coordinators: Madison GMB.

Industrial Worker (ISSN 0019-8870) is the official monthly publication of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW), 1095 Market St. #204, San Francisco, CA 94103. Second Class postage paid San Francisco, CA & additional mailing offices. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to Industrial Worker, 1095 Market St. #204, San Francisco, CA 94103. Subscriptions included with dues for all IWW members. Subscriptions for nonmembers are $15/year. Send subscription orders and donations (US $ only) to: **Industrial Worker, 1095 Market St. #204, San Fransisco, CA 94103.** Unless designated as official policy, articles do not represent the official position of the IWW. Submissions whose content violates the principles of the IWW Preamble & Constitution will not be printed. No paid or commercial advertising accepted. For more information call (415) 863-WOBS.

IWW Directory

Job Shop: IWW organized workplace. GMB: General Membership Branch. Group: IWW members in the same locale. IU: Industrial Union. Delegate: member who collects dues and signs up new members.

AUSTRALIA
NEW SOUTH WALES

Jura Books -110 Crystal St, Petersham, Sydney, NSW

Sydney Area Group -Del: Ray Elbourne, Corner Dittons Ln. & Old Illawara Hwy, Sutton Forest NSW 2577.

VICTORIA

Melbourne Area Group - PO Box 1738Q GPO, Melbourne, Victoria 3001.

CANADA
BRITISH COLUMBIA

SE BC Group-POB 54, Balfour,V0G 1C0. Contact: David Everest 604/229-4978

MANITOBA

Winnipeg GMB - B. Mackay, PO Box 3204, GNPO, R3C 4E7

ONTARIO

Blackbird Design IU450 Job Shop- 394 Euclid Ave #301, Toronto M6G 2S9 416/972-6293

Kingston Group -472 Albert St. K7L 3W3 613/544-2382.Dl:BradWaugh613/549-6094

Ottawa Group-POB 4217 Stn E, K1S 5B2. 613/231-2922

Toronto Group-11 Andrews Ave M6J 1S2. 416/941-9945 *Meetings 1st Thurs. of month 7 pm; phone for location.*

UNITED KINGDOM

Leicester Del: F.Lee 22 Vicarage Lane Belgrave, LE4 5PD. 053/366-1835

Swindon Contact: Kevin Brandstatter 9 Omdurman St. Swindon,Wilts SN2 1HA

York -Delegate: D.Czunys, 13 Wolsley,York Y015BQ.

UNITED STATES
CALIFORNIA

Berkeley:

Berkeley Recycling Ctr IU670 Job Shop - M. Carlstroem 2515 Piedmont #8, 94607

New Earth Press IU450 Job Shop- 1921 Ashby Avenue, 94703. Delegate: Dave Karoly 510/549-0176.

UCB Recyclers Industrial Union 620 Branch-620 Eshleman, 94720. Delegate: Daniel Widener.

IWW Local 1/Mendocino-Humboldt GMB- Delegates:Melissa Roberts, POB 2805 Ft. Bragg 95437 (707/964-8164); Judi Bari, POB 656 Willits 95490(msg:707/468-1660); Herb Jager 114 E. Laurel, Ft. Bragg 95437 (707/937-3457).

Greater Los Angeles GMB -Delegate: Andrew Willett, 1136 Arbor Dell Rd. Los Angeles CA 90041.

Sacramento- Time Tested Books IU660- 1114 21st St, 95814. 916/447-5696

San Diego Group - RMR Kroopkin, 2675 Fletcher Pkwy #211, El Cajon 92020. 619/460-2907

San Francisco:

SF Bay Area GMB - 1095 Market St. #204, 94103. 415/863-WOBS

Typesetting Etc. IU450 Job Shop - 1095 Market St. #210, 94103

West Coast Marine Transport Workers IU510 Delegate: Colin Dewey 60 Walter St., 94114. 415/864-6037.

Santa Cruz GMB-PO Box 534, 95061.

COLORADO

Denver:

Denver/Boulder GMB-2412 E. Colfax, 80206 (303/388-1065) *Office hrs Sat.9-12. Meetings 1st Thur.@month 7 pm* Del:Cliff Sundstrom, 910 E 8th Ave #202, 80218 (303/832-7602). Brendan Ruiz,PO Box 370663, 80237-0663.

P&L Printing IU450 Job Shop- 2298 Clay, 80211. 303/433-1852

FLORIDA

Delegate: J. Lewis, 345 Ocean Dr. #1103, Miami Beach 33139

GEORGIA

Atlanta Group - 340 Elmira Pl, 30307. 404/524-1243

HAWAII

Honolulu Group- Del: D. Goldsmith Box 469 University Sta. 96822

IDAHO

Boise Group - Delegate: W. Cohan, PO Box 822, Caldwell ID 83606.

ILLINOIS

Chicago GMB -New World Resource Ctr 1476 Irving Park, 60613. 312/549-5045. *Meetings, 1st Friday 7:30 pm.*

LOUISIANA

Baton Rouge Group- Del: Steve Donahue 729 Bungalow Lane 70802. (504) 389-9572.

MARYLAND

Baltimore GMB -R.Bey, Black Shield, Box 1681, Glen Burnie 21060. 301/367-3024

MICHIGAN

Ann Arbor Tenants Union IU670 Job Shop- 4001 Michigan Union, Ann Arbor 48109. 313/763-6876.

SE Mich. GMB- Delegates:Albert Parsons 313/769-0695; Michael Kozura, 7252 Kendal, Dearborn 48126. 313/581-2065

MINNESOTA

Minneapolis/St. Paul Group - Box 2391, Loop Stn, 55402. 612/339-5002

Duluth Group - 1514 N. 8th Ave. E, 55805. Delegate: Jack Rosenquist

MISSISSIPPI

Gulfport Group-C.G.Streuly 601/896-3515

MONTANA

Butte- Contact: Mark Ross, 111 W. Quartz, 59701. 406/782-4465

NEVADA

Tahoe Group - Larry Steinberg, PO Box 1114, Dayton 89403. 702/246-3120

NEW JERSEY

Paterson Group-PO Box 8532,Haledon NJ 07508. Del: Matt Bolton 201/790-3076

NEW YORK

Central NY Group-POBox 762, Cortland 13045

NY GMB-Delegates: Brian Mahoney 1717 N.Thompson Dr, Bay Shore NY 11706 (516/586-2103); Rochelle Semel, RD 1 Box 158-B, Hartwick 13348.(607/293-6489)

Socialist Party USA Natl Office IU670 Job Shop- 516 W. 25th St. #404, NYC 10001. 212/691-0776

PENNSYLVANIA

Lancaster Group-PO Box 2084, 17608

Boulevard Bingo IU630 Job Shop- Delegate: Tina Gaffney 215/821-5622.

Lehigh Valley GMB-POB 4133 Bethlehem 18018. Tel:215/253-5057. Delegates:Jeff Kelly 215/866-5728; Mike D'Amore 215/434-0218.

Reading Group-PO Box 8468, 19603. Delegates:Dennis Good 215/921-2459; Rick Page 215/562-3487

Philadelphia:

Philadelphia GMB- 4722 Baltimore Ave. 19143. (215)747-0855.

Temple University IWW Group-2106 N. Broad St. 19122. Contact: Francesco Zampetti (215) 765-3511.

Wooden Shoe Books & Records IU660 Job Shop - 112 S. 20th St, Philadelphia 19103. 215/569-2477.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Harbinger Publications IU450 Job Shop- Merll Truesdale, 18 Bluff Rd. Columbia 29201. 803/254-9398

TEXAS

Austin Group - PO Box 49523, 78765. 512/416-9619

UTAH

Salt Lake Group - Tony Roehrig, PO Box 520514, Salt Lake City 84152-0514. 801/485-1969

VERMONT

Burlington Group-Anne Petermann, Orin Langelle POBox 804, 05402. 802/658-2403

WASHINGTON

Seattle Group-POB 20402, Seattle 98102. 206/367-0477. Delegate: Stan Anderson.

Street of Crocodiles Letter Press IU450 Job Shop- PO Box 20610, Seattle 98102. 206/726-5924

WEST VIRGINIA

Delegate: Rick Wilson, 1019 2nd St.W. Huntington WV 25701

WISCONSIN

Lakeside Press IU450 Job Shop- 1334 Williamson, Madison 53703. 608/255-1800. Delegate: Jerry Chernow

Madison GMB-Box 2605, 53701. 608/255-1800. Del: Tim Wong, Jerry Chernow

Truckin' into Reality --

by Arthur J. Miller

I got them old Boomtown, Nevada blues. Sittin' here at the last out before the Truckee inspection station -- hoping to make Modesto by morning. Overloaded and my axle's extended too long for California laws. If I'm weighed the heat will nail me for a grand in fines.

Ain't my fault -- dispatch told me to swap trailers in Wyoming, which I weighed in Nevada. Sit in Boomtown, dispatch tells me, while they figure something out. After 6 hours, they tell me: run the scales.

But it ain't them that will have to pay the fine -- driver responsibility is the name of this game. So I'm forced to run 2-lane back roads, across the Sierras 84,500 pounds -- 4,500 lbs. overweight! -- on roads that are not advised for 30-foot trailers and I'm pulling 53 feet. I have to run at night because my trailer won't make it around the 15 mph curves without taking up both lanes. At night, I can see the headlights of cars coming and stop before the curve.

3-1/2 weeks on the road, through rain, snow, ice and dust storms. Driving 10 hours on 8 hours off, then 10 hours on again.

I must be the point to someone's truck driving song. But ain't never been a song wrote or sung that expresses the true wearyness, hardships, poor working conditions, and loneliness of a long haul truck driver.

The image of a job never meets its reality. I write, because it is important for those who wish to change industry, to understand it.

Blame the Driver!

Most long haul truck drivers are not union, so the conditions of work are set by the bosses and the government. The first thing you learn is, the driver is responsible for everything and is always at fault if something goes wrong. Overweight, chassis too long, not having the right permits, something wrong with the truck, accidents, mislabelled shipments -- it's the driver who is responsible, not the bosses. Even when the company makes you do something illegal such as running the scales, if you get caught, you take the fall.

At the terminal you do a pre-trip inspection. You are told not to write up any defects in your log -- because if DOT (Dept. of Transport) sees it, they will inspect your truck. Also, if the driver has nothing in writing about a defect and you get into an accident, or get a citation, the company is in the clear because they did not know about it. Often, if you find something wrong with your truck you will be told to get it fixed after you come back -- maybe weeks later.

Last load out of Denver, my truck had an air leak in a brake line, an oil leak in a wheel drum, an exhaust leak, and 2 bad tires. I have had to pull trailers with no brakes and cracked brake pads. Many trucks on the road are defective and there is nothing the drivers can do about it. If we complain or write these things up, we catch hell from the boss.

This one woman trucker came off a mountain pass on the way to Denver, lost all brakes, and rather than take a chance on hitting slower cars, plowed her rig into a snowbank to stop. She had complained of brake problems and was told they would fix them in Denver. You should have seen her face as she came out of the boss's office -- after she was fired. The accident was her fault, they said. This brave strong woman was unable to understand why she was at fault for risking her own life to save others because of the company's unsafe equipment.

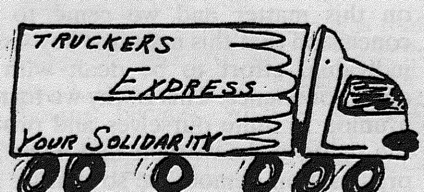
Every interstate driver must keep a daily log of all their hours. By law, we cannot drive longer than 10 hours without 8 hours off or in the sleeper berth. We cannot have over 70 hours in 8 days, including driving and on-duty not driving (loading etc.). How we get around it is, do not count all your on duty, not-driving hours, and run 2 log books. This way you never run out of hours.

Truck drivers are not paid by the hour, but by the mile. No time and a half for overtime. In some cases the driver is responsible for loading and unloading, with no pay. They have you sign a paper that if you're injured while loading or unloading, the company is not responsible.

Speed Up and Wait

You get your dispatch and it's your job to get the load where it is going, on time. You may have a load due in 3 days, but it only takes one day to get there so you sit around 2 days with no pay. Other loads are going to be late, no matter how hard you drive.

Often the company gets a load it does not have a truck for. The load sits there until a truck is available. The load gets to its destination late, the driver is to blame. That's why, no matter how bad the weather conditions, you will see



some truck trying to get through -- it's because they're trying not to be late, and because they get paid by the mile -- they don't make any money just sitting there.

Do not believe that tall tale, that big trucks are safer in bad weather than cars. The opposite is true: if the driver hits a slippery patch of road they cannot use the brakes or let up on the fuel, because if the tractor is moving slower than the trailer there will be a jacknife. I have hit ice where I had no steering and all I could do was glide across it. Had there been a curve I would be a statistic!

Truck Safety

A truck with one trailer has one pivot point where the kingpin goes into the fifth wheel. A truck with 2 trailers has 2 pivot points, 3 trailers have 5 pivot points. The more pivot points, the more chances of a jacknife. Trucks going in curves must increase speed to keep the trailer(s) in line. That's why you see more truck accidents in curves than anywhere else. If you are driving a car, and halfway around a curve on an off ramp you put on your brakes, you cause an accident with the truck behind you.

A truck with a full load will stop sooner than one that is empty; but going down a hill, the reverse is true.

The most aggravating and dangerous thing cars do is when they come onto the freeway ahead of a truck and slow down. Instead, you should speed up and get on the freeway. The truck driver sees you and will let you in.

Don't cut a truck off. Don't turn in front of a truck. Remember that it takes a lot to stop a truck and that it ain't very smart to play games with 80,000 pounds coming right at you.

Hazardous Loads

The most dangerous trucking is hazardous materials. By law hazardous materials must be labelled, with placards on all 4 sides of the trailer. If anything is wrong with the labels, packaging, or paperwork, the driver pays the fines -- that can run into thousands of dollars!

Drivers are paid by map miles, figured from main post office to main post office. Most companies do not pay the extra miles that hazardous material loads must take by law, to get around major cities. Even these routes are sometimes closed to hazardous loads, in rush hour.

With the company pushing the driver to deliver the load on time, the result is that the driver will stop before a city, take off the labelling placards and run through the city, then put the labels back on. The same thing happens where such loads are restricted at bridges and tunnels.

Truck Drivers Will Have to Get Organized -- They Can't Count on Anyone But Themselves

This whole trucking scam works out nicely for the bosses. They push the drivers beyond the limits of the law, and if anything happens it's the driver's fault. If the driver goes to DOT, DOT will give the driver a ticket. If you complain to the boss, the boss will leave you sitting in the middle of nowhere waiting for a load, will give you bad loads all the time, or will not route you home.

It's hard enough to get a load going home. I have known drivers who were out for months without getting home. Sometimes you wait so long for a load going home, that you can't afford to take any time off once you get there.

Out on the road I ask myself, "What can I do about all this?" One trucker can do very little. Truckers will have to get organized, for they cannot count on anyone but themselves. To this end, I have begun to leave flyers in truck stops all over this land. I run 48 states and Canada.

What truckers can do by getting organized:

-- Get paid by the hour instead of by the mile

-- Time and a half pay for overtime, and pay for all on-duty hours.

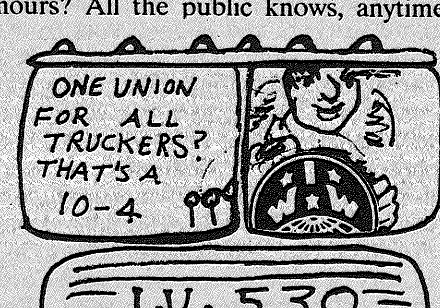
-- The right to refuse to drive unsafe equipment.

-- Terminals located outside towns, where long haul drivers drop off and pick up trailers, and local drivers take them in and out of town.

Terminals for relaying loads -- the driver takes a load 500 miles to a terminal, drops it, takes another load back home 500 miles. Some Union shops already do this.

Public Safety Issue

The public has a very big stake in the trucking industry. Safety on the road will save lives. How many people are killed each year because truck drivers are forced to run bad equipment, in bad weather, too many hours? All the public knows, anytime



truckers take an action, their goods are not there on time.

The only real answer is to dump the bosses off our backs, so the workers can run industry safely, for the well-being of all.

Transport Workers -- Send Information about Safety, Job Conditions...

I am starting up an **Industrial Transportation Research and Organizing Project (ITROP)**. The transportation industry is one of the most dangerous to people and the environment. Bosses and governments are trying to break what organization there is in this industry, and to keep the public ignorant of the realities and dangers.

ITROP will gather information about safety and working conditions in the transportation industries: maritime, rail, trucking and air -- and will get the information from the workers out to the public. ITROP will formulate solutions and aid workers in organizing for their own safety and the safety of the public and mother earth. I need help with research, publication, and distribution of information. Please contact me at: **ITROP, Arthur J. Miller, PO Box 5464 Tacoma WA 98415 -- 0464.** Thank you.

Wobblies Still Alive!!!

The following notice was recently discovered, posted in UAW offices at Detroit:

"SOFTBALL PLAYERS

"The Wobblies are still alive. We play every Wednesday after work on Belle Isle in the Downtown Detroit Lawyers League. It is relaxed (no sliding) mixed league. If you show up you are guaranteed a spot in the batting rotation and some playing time on the field. First game is May 19 at 5:30, Diamond 8 on the Canadian side...."

On investigation, local Wobblies discovered that the UAW softball team has been called "The Wobblies" for about the past 40 years. We are informed that a letter has been sent to GST Harry Siitonen, requesting permission to continue using the name.

Here at *Industrial Worker*, we have only one objection. Is it worthy of the great Wobbly tradition of direct action, to have this rule of NO SLIDING? *-mv*

Drive A Truck For NAFTA

I just got back from travelling about 3,000 miles with 4 truckers -- an American, a Canadian, a Mexican -- and one Teamster. I learned a little about conditions in the trucking industry.

Mass transport of goods from place to place is the whole basis and substance of North American Free Trade. Here's how the "economic benefits" work: every week, thousands of live cattle from Alberta are trucked to the US for killing. Every week, tons of packaged beef is trucked from as far south as Alabama -- 2,000 miles -- to be sold in Alberta stores. You have to be a Harvard economist to figure it's more efficient to truck your beef halfway across the world and back again before you eat it.

Rather than improve the rail systems to do all this transporting, the rulers of the U$A have decided to run millions more trucks on the public highways. This is creating a large new workforce. Jobs can now be found driving trucks, for those willing to endure the unhealthy conditions, stress, and long periods away from home.

There are a few large national trucking companies, and many small ones, that hire drivers. Some of the large companies now offer paid training, as they are all trying to expand.

It is also possible to make good money as an independent owner-operator of a truck, if you can purchase a $100,000 machine and put in lots of miles. You'll need the latest radar and laser detectors. CB is widely used by passing drivers to warn each other about cops. CB also becomes a medium for all kinds of conversations.

Truck drivers, virtually living and working alone, are often "individualists." This independence keeps truckers divided -- by racism, sexism and just plain orneriness; still, there is a strong sense of solidarity and mutual aid among nearly all drivers. More women are hauling freight these days, and you see many black drivers.

With a workplace on wheels, truck drivers are in possession of a large part of North America's wealth, at any given time. With more and more industries dependent on the long-distance delivery of goods, truck drivers have tremendous power, if they should become organized.

Most are not organized at present. But I did speak to one seasoned Teamster who was hauling construction pipe. Making $3,000 a week, pulling 500 miles to a drop-off at another Union shop, with paid ticket back home, then another 500 miles. Highest he ever made was $6,000. Oh yes, he'd seen direct action in his time -- fires, smashed engine blocks... I love to make money, he said. When you got a job that pays well, he said, you look after it.

-Mynor Variente

International Notes

VIETNAM

Employees of a Vietnamese-South Korean joint venture struck February 6 to protest brutal working conditions. The Reeyoung company, a refrigeration joint venture, allegedly underpaid and beat its Vietnamese employees. In several cases workers received sick-leave permission from a Vietnamese manager, but were later fired for absenteeism by a Korean manager.

Minimum wage for workers in joint ventures is US $50/month. But Reeyoung's skilled laborers got $27 average. In addition, the company continually increased working hours.

The 2-day strike by 650 employees brought some concessions by Reeyoung's management: a promise to resolve payment, a sick-leave policy and better treatment of employees. Management called for a return to work, but the workers were not satisfied with simple promises; they wanted to see concrete solutions before resuming work.

Last December in Vietnam, 17 employees of a shoe company struck to protest underpayment from their Taiwanese employers. Luitech-Leago ignored its pledge to triple the low wage of $25/month when an employee passes the 3-month probation. The company also refused overtime payment.

These 2 incidents expose the Vietnamese government's inability or unwillingness to protect the rights of Vietnamese workers. Indeed, the government itself is part of the exploiting system: employees of foreign joint ventures are taxed up to 50% of their wages, leaving workers with $15-30 to take home. In dire need of foreign investment to salvage the "socialist" economy, Vietnamese authorities have been far too timid to enforce laws on foreign businesses.

SRI LANKA

General Strike Called: The Ceylon Mercantile, Industrial & General Workers' Union (CMU) called for a general work stoppage April 29, followed by a mass demonstration. The decision to stage a mass demonstration is of special importance as no demonstrations have been permitted since 1977. The CMU is seeking to re-establish the exercise of fundamental democratic rights suppressed in Sri Lanka for many years.

Over 3000 workers, over 90% of whom are women, have been locked-out since 27th April 1993, by 2 companies in the Free Trade Zone in Katunayake: Atlas Glove Ceylon (Pvt) Ltd; and Altas Glove Colombo (Pvt) Ltd. The incident occurred following a 2-1/2 day strike over pay. After agreeing to a pay rate, management told the workers to take leave instead of wages. The workers refused. On 27 April, 255 women workers were refused work and the identity cards of some were taken away so that they could not work elsewhere. Those who had gathered outside the factory were assaulted by the security guards and some were hospitalized. On 28th, when all the workers reported for work, they were locked-out and requested to report for work individually on conditions which were unacceptable to them.

Although there are no trade unions in FTZ, the Industrial Transport and General Workers Union has taken up their cause together with the Womens' Centre. Funds are urgently needed to enable us to maintain the workers who are mainly women in an unfortunate plight and on the streets. Please send your early response and very importantly your contributions for this worthy cause: to Bank of Ceylon, Lake House Branch, Colombo 1, Sri Lanka, Account No 894, to the credit of the Industrial Transport & General Workers Union. You can send your response to Fax: 94-1-580721 Attn: Anton Marcus.

JAPAN

Environmental Workers Union

World Wide Fund (WWF) Japan is a nature conservation organisation established in 1971 and our mission is to preserve biodiversity, to ensure that the use of natural resources is sustainable and to prevent pollution and the wasteful exploitation and consumption of resources and energy.

We, workers at WWF Japan, perceive issues of the global environment as being of the utmost importance, and we wish to work with enthusiasm as part of the staff of a non profit organisation and contribute to society in the fields of nature conservation and environmental protection.

Since its 20th anniversary in 1991, its numbers of members and supporters have grown to over 30,000 and there are over 40 full-time staff employed; thus giving WWF Japan a greater responsibility to society. With this expansion in the numbers of members and staff, its internal organisation has been altered and it seems to be well organised at first sight.

However, when activities of an organisation diversify and the number of the staff increases, it must be realised that two separate paths await.

TWO PATHS

EITHER the demarcation between management and workers is perceived as a differentiation of roles and everyone has a chance to express one's opinion and can participate in the decision making process of policies and operate on the basis of mutual trust;

OR the demarcation becomes a segregation between the ones who dominate and those dominated and the power of the dominators become reinforced while no opinions are reflected in policies. Also rewards and punishments are given at will, consequently causing the staff to become dispirited and activities deteriorate.

We workers analyse from our own experience that WWF Japan has begun to follow the latter path and we feel uneasy and have doubts about this situation. We also fear that we ourselves could lose our enthusiasm and pride in working for nature conservation and environmental protection if the present situation is allowed to continue.

We had discussions over and over on this matter and we came to the conclusion that this matter is beyond an individual effort to be dealt with on one's conscience. This is why we formed a union to unite ourselves and protect the rights of the workers and make this organisation democratic so that we can pursue the promotion of sound nature conservation and environmental protection from now on.

We, WWF Japan Labour Union declare hereby that in order to pass on the nature on earth we are entrusted by our children to the people in the future in a sound state, we will operate democratically, protect the rights of the workers and we will unite ourselves with all the individuals and groups who also are striving for nature conservation and environmental protection and act positively for the causes.

On the opening day of the Ramsar Convention in Kusiro, 9 June 1993.

CALL FOR SOLIDARITY
FORD CUAUTITLAN UPDATE

Local Executives Illegally Deposed: On June 4, Fidel Velazquez, head of the government-controlled CTM union in Mexico, called an assembly to depose the local union executive committee of Cuautitlan Ford Assembly plant. The national union has felt threatened by the local at Cuautitlan, outside Mexico City, because the committee was democratically elected and has been questioning use of union funds at the national level. The illegal assembly was attended by 700 temporary Ford workers and 800 workers from the rubber industry, who had nothing to do with Ford. Temporary workers from Ford were threatened with firing if they did not attend the assembly. Local executive members were forcefully excluded from the meeting.

680 Ford Workers Laid Off: On June 15, workers returned to Cuautitlan to news that more than 680 temporary workers had been laid off due to reduced consumer demand. This lay off was negotiated with the National union and not the Local executive committee as stipulated in labor law.

Workers Feel Threatened: There is a climate of fear in the plant given CTM's history of violent repression with Ford's complicity. Major actions were planned by the local committee for June 18. Reprisals are expected.

LOCAL COMMITTEE DEMANDS 1- Respect for union autonomy, right to democratic election. That Ford and the National CTM Committee respect Mexican labor law. 2- That Ford respect labor regulations regarding lay-offs, demonstrating before the Labor Secretary of Mexico the necessity of this lay-off. 3- That lay-off negotiations be held directly with the Local Committee.

Please FAX messages of support for these demands to: **Fidel Velazquez Central de Trabajadores Mexicanos 011-525-705-0966. Victor Manuel Barreido, Ford Motor Co. Headquarters, Mexico 011-525-256-1035. Arsenio Farrell, Labor Secretary 011-525-645-5594. Carlos Salinas de Gotari President of Mexico 011-525-522-0549.** If you are on e-mail, send copies of your messages to igc:ced.

The Most Dangerous Country for Workers in the World?

Turkish unionists believe their country has the most dangerous workplaces anywhere in the world. "In 1991, 36 out of every 1,000 workers suffered workplace accidents; 3,669 of those injured were permanently disabled and 1,631 lost their lives during or after the accidents," according to the Research Dept. of the Revolutionary Trade Unions Confederation (DISK).

In 1991, 281 in every one million Turkish workers lost their lives in workplace accidents, compared to nine of every million in the Netherlands and 151 of every million in Portugal--the latter with the next worst record after Turkey, according to the International Labor Organization.

But Turkish unionists say these alarmingly high figures cover only the 3 million Turkish workers covered by the country's social security system; 18 million other workers are excluded from the statistics, and DISK fears their working conditions are even worse. Emir Babakush, chair of the Dock Workers' Union, notes that "almost all of the 3,500 workers employed in Istanbul's Tuzla dockyard are without any security in spite of the fact the dockyards are one of the most hazardous branches of industry.

"The Tuzla dockyards district even falls short of having the simplest first aid facilities, such as an infirmary or dispensary, ambulances or nurses," said Babakush.

RUSSIA

Bloody May Day: When participants in the communist May Day demonstration - including this correspondent - neared Gagarin Square on Lenin Prospect, they found the entrance to the square blocked by heavy vehicles, with hundreds of police and riot troops standing ready. Only a small side street provides an exit. The metro station, through which marchers had to leave, lay close by -- but behind police lines.

A head-on collision was inevitable. Within minutes the quiet demonstration turned into an inferno of street fighting, with flying rubble and burning cars. Demonstrators were savagely beaten by security forces, who also used water cannons. The casualties were estimated at over 200.

With only an ambiguous victory in the April 25 poll, Yeltsin and his backers needed some shocking incident to galvanise support of a highly centralised, authoritarian "presidential republic." In this game Trudovaya Rossiya, with its hard-line positions and narrow appeal, was a convenient scape-goat that could be used to rally support behind Yeltsin in the fight against "communist revanchism". By provoking the street battle on May Day Yeltsin obtained "concrete proof" of this "conspiracy".

A few hours after the clash his press secretary promised decisive action against the organizations that allegedly planned the "riots". A ban on certain communist and nationalist organisations can be expected, but this will hardly be the last chapter. The attack on the demonstration can be seen as a trial run for blanket repression of all opposition to Yeltsin. Whatever criticisms one might make of the forces behind the May Day demonstration, it has to be understood that the attack was aimed at civil liberties and the workers movement. --*Poul Funder Larsen*

ROMANIA

General Strike: Several trade union confederations organizing workers in the building, wood and forestry sectors decided to go on general strike May 5 to protest the rapid deterioration of living standards under the government of the National Salvation Front. Prices have been freed, while wages are effectively frozen. More than 20,000 unionists gathered in Bucharest April 12 to take part in a march in support of the unions' position.

MOROCCO

Workers Assaulted: The railworkers union in Morocco held a one-day strike April 6, accusing the national railway company of negligence and irresponsible behavior following an accident in which 3 of its members were severely burned. The union says the April 1 collision, which provoked the derailment of two engines and 17 carriages, was a direct result of management negligence. Management completely abandoned the injured workers, and subsequently tried to blame the "unfortunate incident" on workers' confusion.

EL SALVADOR

Death Squads Kidnap Baby: The 6-month-old baby son of a Salvadoran trade union leader was kidnapped April 21 when 2 armed men turned up at the home of Lucas Bernal Marmol, a leader of the CTD union federation. After tying up Marmol's wife and threatening his nephew, the 2 men disappeared with the child.

PAKISTAN

Workers Tortured: Savage torture has been used against workers at the Daewoo motorway project who tried to form a union. The Korean multinational is using Pakistan's anti-union laws to prevent formation of a union.

CHINA

Strikers Fired: 12 workers were forced to resign from their jobs at the Cannon multinational in Zhuhai, Southern China, following a 3-day strike. According to the International Metalworkers' Federation, 800 workers struck for more pay at the camera-making plant in early April. Officials from China's state-controlled "union," the ACFTU, were sent in to break the strike.

AFL-CIO TO MERGE WITH SPACE ALIENS!

WAGE SLAVE WORLD NEWS

TRASHY JOURNALISM FOR THE WORKING CLASS

JULY, 1993 VOL. 4, NO. 4



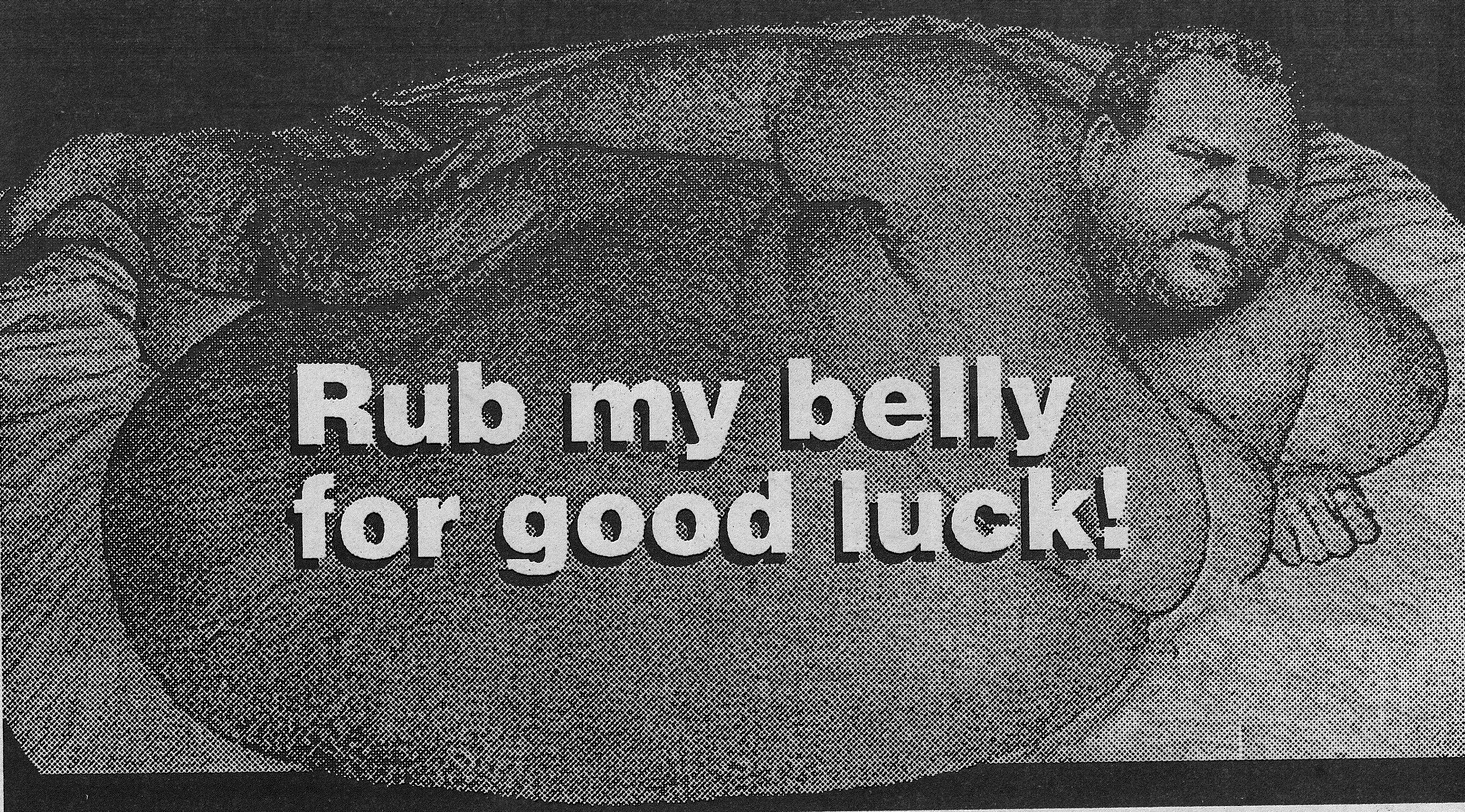
AFL-CIO HEAD Lane Kirkland shakes hands with the Space Alien and welcomes him as a fellow union member.

NEW FEDERATION TO BE KNOWN AS

AFL-UFO

Labor's future is "Up in the air," says AFL-UFO head Kirkland!

The National Labor Relations Board says...



by JACKIE FLESHER
Special to the Wage Slave

WORKPLACE DEMOCRACY...union rights...a first contract...THE RIGHT TO STRIKE! All this can be yours - just by rubbing the belly of this spineless jellyfish called the National Labor Relations Board!

Simply place your hand on the massive belly of the NLRB in this photograph and rub in one spot for 30 seconds as you imagine your wildest dreams coming true. Then sit back and wait for your working class utopia to appear.

"I can't explain it myself, but it never fails," said the NLRBelly. "Wage slaves who rub my stomach - even a picture of my stomach - soon see their most bizarre labor fantasies come true."

The NLRB became famous worldwide in 1981 when it turned into a massive, Reaganite blob of spineless corporate toadiness." A lot of people considered me a freak back then," the labor board recalled. "I just laid there and did nothing but lick the feet of corporate America - and I wasn't feeling very good about myself."

But just when things looked their darkest, the NLRB's life took an amazing turn." Bill Clinton was elected President of the United States," the bulbous board said, "and Robert Reich was confirmed as Secretary of Labor. Before I knew it, the word had spread that I was a good luck charm. Wage slaves, desperate for some good news, started coming to Washington, D.C. day and night to rub my belly - and then calling and telling me what great luck they had organizing unions."

"I learned this almost by accident," the labor lard said. "I was telling a corporate big shot how rubbing my stomach would bring luck, so one of his secretaries rubbed a picture of my stomach - and two weeks later her union won its first election at his company.

The kindhearted NLRB now hopes to use his bizarre powers to return union democracy to every workplace in the U$A." I received a lot of friendly letters from wage slaves who rubbed my belly and won union recognition and a first contract, all in the same decade!"

"I just hope I can continue bringing good luck to wage slaves all over this beautiful country of ours. It's your right, so just rub away - and wait for your dreams to come true."

Wage Slave World News

SENSATIONALIST WORKERS OF THE WORLD

VOL. 4, NO. 4
JULY, 1993
Official organ of the Sensationalist Workers of the World

Editor: Mike Konopacki
Writer: Jeff Ditz
This is a constitutionally protected magazine of political satire. Any similarity to actual persons is intentional.

Work addicts die of overdose!

Thousands of work-aholics slave long hours only to die when their drug is cut off, an exclusive Wage Slave study reports! According to the study by Professor J. Bekken, mercenary pushers, known as the "Capitalist Gang" and the Wall Street Drug Cartel, hook thousands every year to the killer drug. Work addicts are forced into offices, factories and McJobs by the need for food and housing. Crude forms of brainwashing are used in the workplace to convince the work addicts to return day after day for doses of work. The wage slaves trade huge quantities of labor for small bits of money that they spend for food and housing. Amazingly the power of the work doses diminish as the addicts toil harder to get them.

Millions of work addicts in the U$A continue to go to work day after day. They average less than two weeks off a year, work for fifty years, and then die. Real life stories of work addicts who work without a day off for years and years and then die the first day they retire are legion. Generalissimo Motors, formerly the largest slave holder in the U$, gloats that retirement costs for work addicts are minimal. "The average wage slave that makes it to 'retirement' age dies within two years. Through our management-by-stress system we hope soon to have them die a couple weeks before collecting their pensions." Wage slaves in Japan are also falling victim to the drug, Karoshi, in epidemic proportions. Karoshi is the Japanese word for death-by-overwork.

Overwork is the one drug (besides alcohol) that the formerly existing, so-called socialist, states couldn't keep outside their borders. Under Uncle Joe Stalin the strange cult of Staknovites developed as an official state endorsement for work addiction. These Taylorist travailers were held up as heroes for suicide by overwork.

MR. BLOCK WORKS 35 YEARS WITHOUT A DAY OFF!

Loyal wage slave Mr. Bill Block celebrated a special ceremony in the company lunch room after working 35 years WITHOUT A DAY OFF!

Bill's foreman, Eddie Plant Jr. (son of a former foundry foreman), handed Bill his 35 year testimonial trinket. It was a new wrist watch size Nintendo with a game lasting six seconds, one second less than the time between tasks on Block's assembly line job. Plant then gave Block his first retirement check and escorted him to the front gate, where Block promptly died of a heart attack.

A five second testimonial to honor Block's passing will be held between parts at noon on Monday. The Quality of Work Life Committee has announced a speed up of the line in honor of Block.

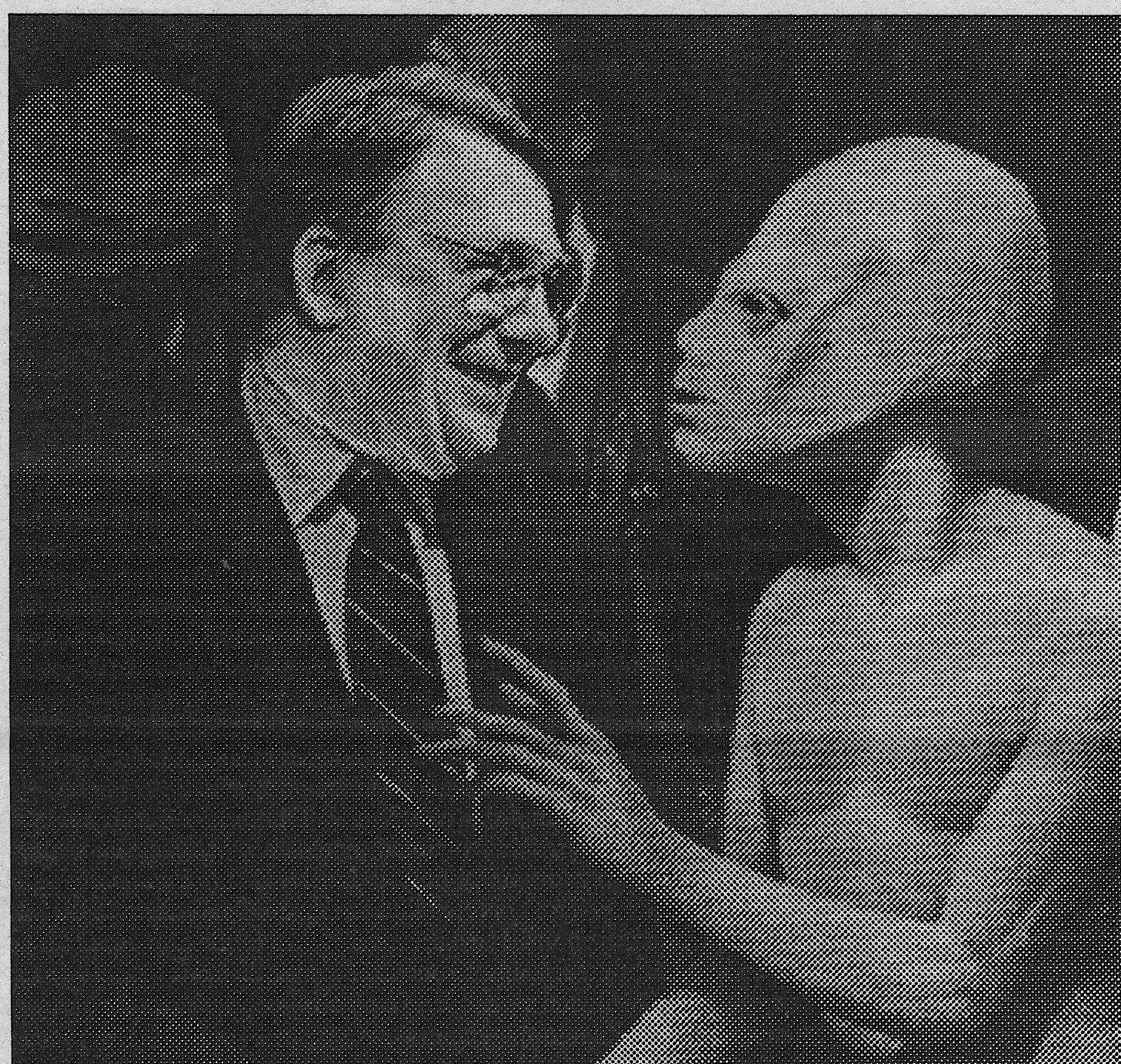
AFL-CIO MERGES WITH SPACE ALIENS TO FORM AFL-UFO!

by DICK K. PHILIP
Special to the Wage Slave

THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR AND CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS has merged with a space alien labor federation to form the AFL-UFO! The bizarre merger took place last month after intense negotiations with the extraterrestrials.

America's lords of labor became enamored with the idea of joining forces with other world workers after hiring the space alien in 1991 to lobby for the right-to-strike bill. The thinking at the time was that the AFL-CIO had as much chance of having a space alien lobby President Bush into signing the labor rights bill as getting the bill passed. A campaign was launched called UFO YES! designed to get the reluctant Bush to bestow the right to strike on American wage slaves. Unfortunately, Republicans in the U$ Senate filibustered the bill and it failed to clear the Senate.

Since then, the fate of the American labor movement has been in great doubt. Membership continues to fall, now nearing just 10% for private sector wage slaves. This rate is lower than it was before the Wagner Act of 1935 was passed, legalizing unions. "Our future is so up in the air right now," said AFL-CIO head Lane Kirkland, "that we decided to take it literally."



> "Our future is so up in the air right now we've decided to take it literally."
> -Lane Kirkland

President Kirkland gave no indication whether the space alien would again be used to lobby for the right-to-strike bill, now called the Cesar Chavez Workplace Fairness Bill, in memory of the late Farm Workers leader.

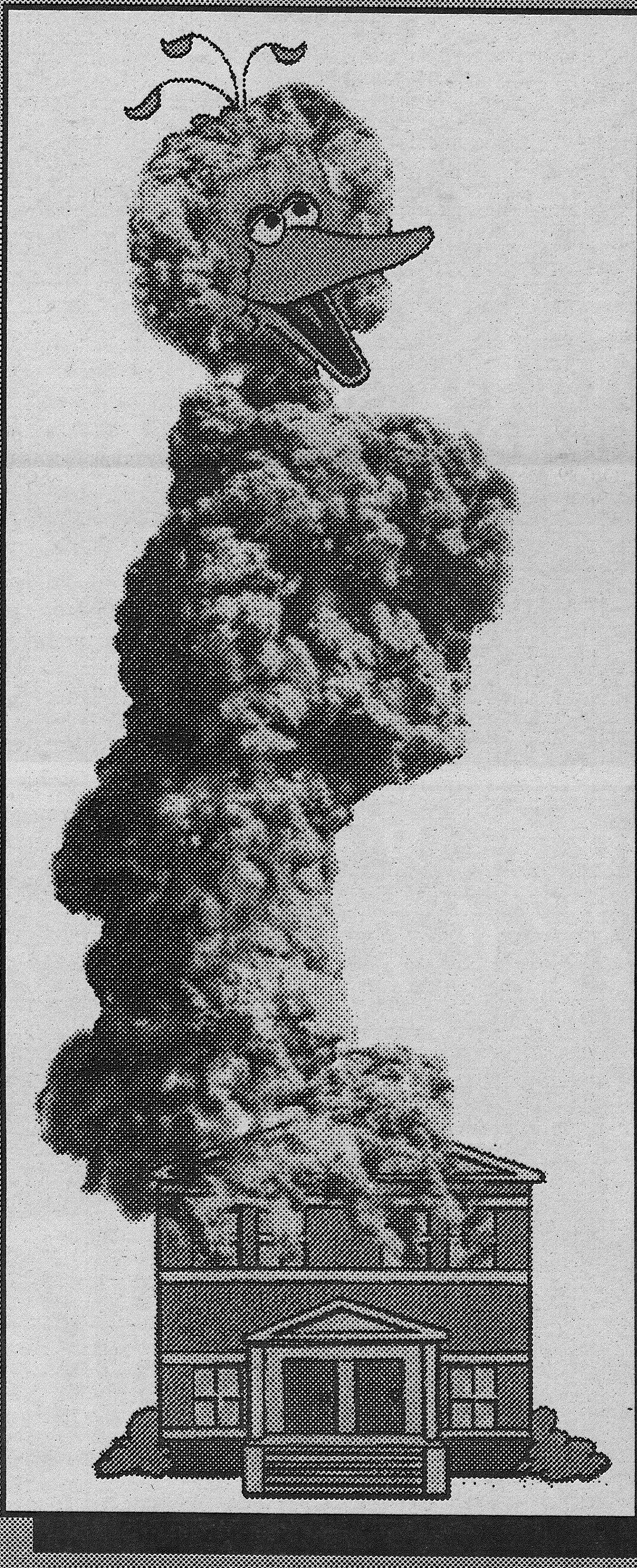
Some labor activists view the merger with cautious optimism, reasoning that since most wage slaves are alienated from economic power anyway, joining forces with an actual space alien might improve the situation. Others are even more optimistic. They are hoping that former AFL-CIO president Lane Kirkland will be elected president of the new AFL-UFO and be transported to a new headquarters in some other galaxy.



A wage slave (left) plays taps as the aged AFL-CIO is buried to make way for the new earth/alien federation, the AFL-UFO.

FLUFFY FACED BIG BIRD IS SEEN IN SMOKE OVER BANGKOK TOYLAND!

209 toy makers go to heaven after factory goes poof in big fire!



by KIRMIT THE HOG
Special to the Wage Slave

THE CHEERIE FACE OF BIG BIRD THRILLED millions by appearing in clouds of soft fluffy smoke that billowed from a Bangkok toy factory known as the Children's Toyland Sweatshop.

The fun flames at the Buddha Monthon toy factory, on the outskirts of Bangkok, Thailand, made 209 toy toilers go to heaven forever, and gave Owies to 500 more.

Most of the happy toy makers were young women, many of whom thought they could fly out of fourth story windows. The tireless toy toilers couldn't escape from Big Bird's smoke because the factory policeman locked all but one door. Mr. Policeman didn't want anyone stealing the toys that were meant for good little boys and girls in the U$.

Buddha Monthon is partly owned by Kader Industries, a Hong Kong export company that sells Toyland Sweatshop toys to some of our favorite toy companies: Hasbro, Fischer-Price, Tyco and even Santa Claus. The huge Toys R Us chain also imported Sesame Street toys, playground equipment and plastic toys from the Thailand toyland. According to the San Jose Mercury News, Toys R Us tried to fool us by denying that they bought toys from Kader Industries, but U$ Customs records know better.

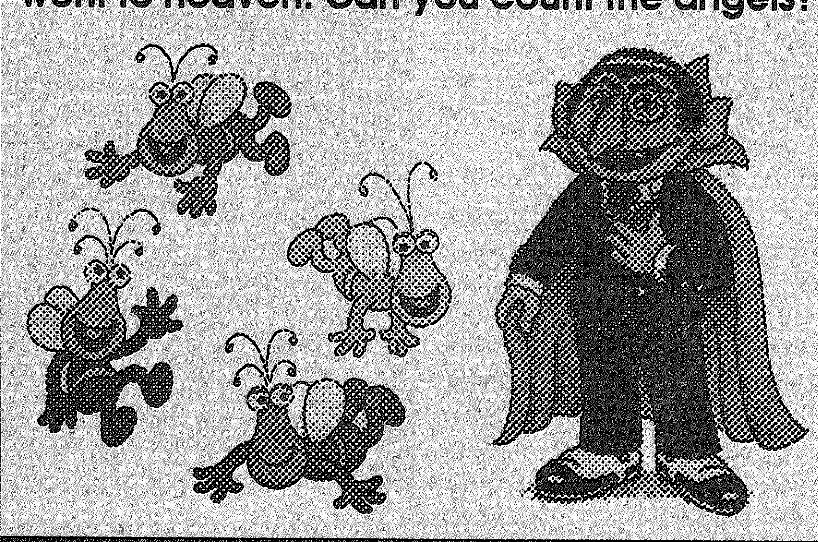
Kader is one of the happiest Toyland Sweatshop owners in the whole wide world, with over 10,000 toy toilers in eight countries. According to U$ Customs records, 270 tons of Children's Toyland Sweatshop toys were shipped to happy American children from the Bangkok factory.

Conditions in the fabulous-fun-factory weren't always nice, 800 toy toilers had to work right next to each other in a four-building complex with all kinds of fun-flammable fabric and (very) warm and fuzzy doll-stuffing. There were no sprinklers or fire escapes, so the wonderful toys wouldn't get wet and toy makers wouldn't run away when they should be making toys.

Toy company executives are very sorry that Big Bird's smoke hurt so many people, but there was nothing they could do. They said that they must confine their inspections only to making sure that American children are happy with their new toys.

Most of the Asian Children's Toyland Sweatshops making toys, and lots of neat money for U$ companies, are staffed by young, poor Thai women who left the countryside because they just love to make toys for little American children, even if some of them are children themselves.

The Count wants to know how many angels went to heaven. Can you count the angels?



LETTERS

continued from Page 2

Books for Prisoners

Greetings:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Prisoners Literature Project, an all volunteer-run project of some members of Bound Together Book Collective and various community members. We have been sending free books to prisoners throughout the USA for the past 5 years. Books have been donated by publishers, authors and supportive individuals. Our only expense has been postage, which runs about $250 a month (about 200 books sent out per month). We have been funded in the past by individual contributions, a RESIST (Boston) grant of $600, a few benefits. We are presently waiting word from Vanguard Foundation which will not be received until September. It has been suggested that we write to you to see if you could help us to continue until we receive our next major grant. Anything will be appreciated. The imprisoned thank you for your generosity.

Bound Together Books -- Prisoners Literature Project, 1369 Haight St., San Francisco CA 94117

Maritime Safety

Dear Sister & Fellow Workers,

I wish to respond to Jacob Feuerwerker's letter that in part dealt with my article on the maritime industry. First as to supertankers, many of these ships are being scrapped and, as far as I know, no more are being built because there are few ports they can come into and few places they can go for repairs.

As for fuel tanks, all other ships have ballast tanks that use water for ballast. Fishing boats should have water ballast tanks. The real reason fishing boats carry so much fuel is so they don't have to stop and refuel. Carrying so much fuel is not safe for the environment. It is not safe for workers, because if the boat's catch becomes too heavy then how do they release their ballast -- dump fuel into the sea? A major reason fishing boats go down, is they are overloaded. Recently one went down and only 2 workers survived, because they were overloaded and when they were pulling in a catch it listed the boat far to one side.

The point of my article was that the safety of the Earth should come first. I don't care what is cheaper for the bosses, because what is cheaper for them is more costly for workers and the earth. The argument Jacob uses for supertankers -- bigger is cheaper -- is the same that bosses use in the trucking industry for triple trailers. But they are more dangerous and put workers out of jobs.

I believe the fishing industry should be localized, rather than building big fishing boats that sail the seas far from home port, depleting the schools of fish to maximize profits for the bosses. It is our job as revolutionary unionists and radical environmentalists to redirect industry away from maximum profit for the bosses, and in the direction of safety and well-being for all, including the earth.

In Solidarity,
Arthur J. Miller



Signs of Joe Hill

Fellow Workers,

Recently, on a job in Montana, I was looking for a place to go fishing. Between the towns of Columbus and Absarokee, I drove across Joe Hill Creek. I tried to find out who named it and why, but it has been Joe Hill Creek as long as anybody could remember.

Solidarity
Bob Madsen --X341372

Good Work FW Bob! Industrial Union 630 is trying to track Joe down. This is the best tip we've had since he got arrested last year in Oregon. -iwcoord.

Prison Factories?

Dear Fellow Workers,

I'm sure you have heard about the riots at Lucasville SOCF. Unfortunately, as my friend Mr. Perotti and myself have been warning for many years, it was something that had to happen. For too long society has been ignoring prisoners. Too long we've existed under draconian conditions, under rules that infantilize us. With the advent of unit management, officials have been running hog-wild. They've taken away nearly all the incentive perks we used to have. Parole boards have generally not been following the established guidelines, a major cause of overcrowding in the Ohio gulag system. Those in close and maximum-security gulags, have nothing to look forward to but more of the same.

Even rats, when cornered, fight! For years the gulagcrats have been tugging at strings, treating prisoners like laboratory primates with their pet social control theories. SOCF had been boiling like a pressure cooker for 6 years. It finally exploded because all the relief valves had been blocked by the gulagcrats.

It is high time all of this should be exposed. Even the major media displayed some interest -- perhaps they'll be inclined to keep it up, if the alternative press will continue to raise the issue of the failed prison system of this land.

As a point of interest to all workers who are nominally free: There are now several plans to allow prisoners to work in industries that will be set up in prisons, but compete on the open market with their products. While prisoners will be paid minimum wage, a great part of their paycheque will be confiscated for their upkeep (room and board, etc), and to pay their court-imposed fines.

Aside from being forced to work in slave labor schemes, which most prisoners have been forced to do in the past 100 years, prisoners will now be part of schemes to take jobs away from "free workers" -- while paying fines imposed by bankrupt governments as one more revenue scheme, similar to what states and municipalities have been doing with traffic and parking fines. This has got to stop now, before it beomes commonplace. If prisoners have to work as part of their rehabilitation, it is better to have us work in conservation and recycling -- two fields not viable enough to pay minimum wages -- rather than compete with "free" workers.

Until next time, I remain with a blessing for a more peaceful and just world.

--In Friendship & Solidarity
Jacob Feuerwerker

MORE LETTERS! page 10



May Day -- Winnipeg

MayDay in Winnipeg was the biggest extravaganza since the 1930's. Planning started early in March inviting over 100 organizations to attend and participate. The Canadian Labour Congress (CLC) and the Manitoba Federation of Labour (MFL) and Winnipeg & District Labour Council (WDLC) provided funds and (Official) support. The event was organized by volunteer labour of the IWW Winnipeg group.

Two months of building storey-high puppets, 30 meters of sewing fabric for their costumes; press releases sent to all media outlets; and 2,000 posters and leaflets went into MAYDAY.

May Day morning was spent setting up and moving puppets, and organizing the choir and information tables. At 1:15 pm. the puppets, representing the greatest evils: a capitalist/politician, a robocop, a multinational corporate figure, and an Uncle Sam appeared, accompanied by uniformed marshalls into the City Hall Square. They were met by hundreds of demonstrators with banners flying. The choir sang "Solidarity" pushing through the looming "evil puppets" and the parade began -- led by the IWW banners. The parade stopped at McDermot Ave. & Main St. to lay a wreath to commemorate the 1919 Winnipeg General Strike.

After a boisterous parade with drums at the front, and the "evil puppets" with tied hands pulled in the rear, we arrived to Old Market Square singing "This Land is Your Land." The stage was decorated with two gigantic applauding pairs of worker's hands, donned with the slogan "General Strike."

Anti-Free Trade & NAFTA speeches were made by representatives of the MFL, WDLC and the Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW); a strike support speech was made by USW Local 7360. Songs by FW Mike Desautels the Wobble Wowser, Latin America Libersationist Hugo Torres, and labor singer Troy Harwood Jones, were interspersed throughout the afternoon. The University of Winnipeg's ANTI-NAFTA PLAYERS did a great theatrical skit. Dancers, poetry, and Revolutionary music by the largest percussion band in the West, the "Ragamaroons," were performed. On the sidelines, Food Not Bombs provided home-baked beans and rye bread and butter to hundreds of participants spectators and hungry people in the park.

Information tables were set up by the Wobblies, the Greens, and the Animal Rights people. The party after the party was rowdy enough to bring out the Fire Department.

May Day 1994 is the 75th anniversary of the Winnipeg 1919 General Strike, and promises to be an even greater celebration than this year. Utah Phillips has already been booked! So all you Wobs out there are invited to come on into Winnipeg for May Day 1994!

Ottawa Foils Nazi Drive

On 29 May the Heritage Front, a neo-Nazi skinhead gang headed by former KKK member Wolfgang Droege, held a recruiting concert at the Ottawa Boys and Girls Club (The space was rented under false pretences). Anti-Racist Action (ARA), a 3-month old organization of about 300 youth activists, including local Wobblies, assembled a demonstration of 600 outside the Club where 50 Nazis, mostly from Toronto, had met. Supposedly 100 recruits were to show up for Droege's concert/hatefest, but the protest prevented local youths from entering.

The situation became very hairy when confrontations flared with police and riot cops; many persons in the demo including seniors and children left the scene, having no wish to fight the riot squad. After several hours the situation calmed down. Learning that the concert had been called off, more demonstrators left. Then the Nazis emerged from the Club and began what the next day's papers called "a running street battle" with the protestors, who defended themselves against hails of rocks and beer bottles with the same.

Though several were injured, no ARA members were arrested -- but 7 "Church of the Creator" skinheads were arrested. Though ARA was portrayed in the media as "bloody-minded leftists," the media called Heritage Front "a collection of misfits and losers," and chided their leader for his anti-immigration stance when he himself is an immigrant.

Vehicles used to bring the Front to Ottawa suffered tire slashings and other damage. As a recruiting drive, the Front's trip to Ottawa was made a total failure. Meanwhile ARA membership is growing, with education work started among students to counter the racist propaganda aimed at high school youth.

Local school boards, however, have been reluctant to grant official status to the student-run education effort. For some reason, school bosses became especially uncomfortable after learning that ARA was already functioning at all the schools in the area. --Devon Griffiths



MORE LETTERS!

continued from page 9

Military a Choice?

Dear Bill Dunham -

I have read your column in *Industrial Worker,* I agree. It will take massive consolidation of all working people -- employed, under-employed and unemployed -- to finally thwart the ruling class: to go with our hammers and chisels and literally tear down the Pentagon, to walk into the banks, savings and loans and factories to repossess the wealth, the means of production, distribution and service, to abolish the profit system and establish a human needs political-economic-social system. The employees of capitalism who guard the system will need to rebel and join other working people in our quest for a truly human and humane society.

Although obviously, every human should have absolute power over one's own life and choices and inclinations for individual expression, there seems to be a great contradiction in women and gay, lesbian and bisexually oriented people in wanting the "choice" to be part of the military. These, oppressed by the dominant white heterosexual male, should not want to be part of this, to have the power to press buttons that indiscriminately kill babies, children, women and men, and to wastefully destroy resources, property and the Earth. We should be working for de-militarization and attempting to help understand what happens as any of us with any degree of power and control is thwarted in one's activities. As power and control is increasingly threatened, the threat or use of force becomes more and more evident as a means to an end. Means inconsistent with the end goal, must NOT be accepted.

--In Solidarity In Our Diversity,
Frank Roemhild

PATRIOTS OF ALL COUNTRIES SHOOT YOURSELVES....



Nurse Harassed, Fired

Dear Fellow Workers,

Just a quick note to tell you how much I enjoy reading your newspaper and, quite frankly, how very pleased I am to see the Wobblie movement alive and growing in numbers. I pass my IW issues on to friends after I finish them.

Recently my wife was fired from her job as CNA at a convalescence center here in Port Orchard. She was working the p.m. shift and was harassed by a male co-worker. They exchanged words; he became verbally abusive; my wife became frightened by his violent display and dialed 911.

The nursing station is quite lonely and isolated at 9:45 p.m. The sheriff's dept. responded. The hassle was resolved to my wife's relief and satisfaction. The next day the director of nursing summoned my wife to her office and informed her she was being dismissed. The reason: the possibility of "bad" publicity when the local read 'n weep rag publishes the weekly 911 call column! No mention of aggressive behavior on the part of her fellow worker, etc. Just concern for possible adverse publicity.

How's that for priorities? Keep up the good work. More later.

--To a World Without Bosses,
Randy and Veronica Fleming
Port Tortured, WA

UTOPIAN SOCIALISM *Book Review*

Continued from page 1

First, Stratman's discussion is too general. Describing revolutionary movements of the '60s he writes: "They challenged the personal isolation imposed by [capitalist and Communist] societies. They rejected the idea of technological "progress" for its own sake.... To oppose faith in technology, they offered faith in people; to isolation, community; to passive acceptance of capitalist or Communist culture, struggle" (p. 83). This description left me asking: But what did they *do? How* did they organize themselves? *Why* did they succeed (or not)? Stratman rarely descends to close description, and in many places it is unclear just what he is saying. This is especially true in his descriptions of how workers ought to organize themselves. He suggests the "service model" of unionism, in which the leaders work for the (passive) membership, be replaced by an "organizing model"; but he is so vague in his description of the "organizing model" that I could not tell whether it involves direct control of the union by its members or not (I suspect not).

Second, I am leery of Stratman's claims about how revolutionary the working class, as it is now, is. Stratman seems to think that working-class people are somehow naturally better people than capitalists or other elites. Writing of Boston during the early '70s and his experience working to improve the public schools, he states: "There was something about the personal lives and the relationships among people in the working class neighborhoods that was different from and better than the general culture of the society.... There was no reason to think that the working people of Boston are any different from working people the world over" (pp. 26-27). The working class is more genuinely human and more virtuous than other classes. Everything they do is revolutionary, at least in implication.

All Stratman is doing here is romanticizing the working class. He closes his eyes to the fact that workers often are sexist, racist and class collaborationist. He also closes his eyes-- as many champions of solidarity do-- to the dangers of authoritarian conformity latent in solidarity. I do not see why the working class has to be the paradigm of virtue for revolutionary change to be possible.

Third, I do not think Stratman succeeds in showing that Marx (with the possible exception of the *1844 Manuscripts*) has to be dismissed as anti-revolutionary. Stratman rightly points out that economic development by itself is not sufficient to account for the evolution of hierarchical societies and class struggle, and that Marx's deterministic account of said development misses much. Stratman's account of the Diggers' 17th-century struggles against the English ruling classes helps bring this out. To the extent Marx's historical materialism involves these two points, it is indeed defective. But that does not automatically mean that Marx's materialist approach is entirely wrong. His grasp of Marx's approach seems weak. Stratman sees "a contradiction ... between the idea of class struggle, in which the exploited are conscious class agents, and the economic paradigm of history acting by its own laws which gives rise to that struggle" (p. 165), but there is no contradiction here-- Marx's point is that economic relations (which are not self-subsistent laws, in his view) arose in a way which is not fully in anyone's control, which is not to say that they are totally out of anyone's control either. Stratman also claims that "Marx accepted the capitalist view of human motivation... For Marx, self-interest is fundamental to historical materialism as a science. Only self-interest is scientifically valid as a motivation; the rest is 'ideology'" (p. 165). This is false, and betrays a misunderstanding of what Marx is up to, namely an immanent critique of capitalism. And it is because Stratman doesn't understand what Marx is doing that he can dismiss him so easily.

Finally, what Stratman offers in place of historical materialism is nothing more than old-fashioned idealist utopian socialism. Stratman asserts that we humans have a fixed nature which determines that working-class values are inherently human values. History is the product of our attempts to realize our human nature, which attempts are fully within our voluntary control. If we are not fully human-- not all living in accord with the eternal working-class values-- this is because other people (capitalists, for instance) are keeping us from doing it, and so we need to try harder.

This idealist view leads to all sorts of problems. If it is our nature to live in accord with collectivist values, then how could any hierarchical society have arisen? If revolution is just a matter of willing change, how is it that capitalism persists? And how do we come to know these values, anyway? Since Stratman concedes that the working class is not always conscious of *the* values, how does it become conscious of them? For Stratman, that is the task of the revolutionary party: to help the working class remember what it has forgotten. In other words, Stratman's revolutionary party is a Platonic elite with a clear vision of reality, by virtue of which it can educate the working class as to its real goals. For all his cheering for democracy and his token mention of workers' councils, Stratman *never* talks about how workers can organize themselves to directly control decision-making by and for themselves.

For all his verbal opposition to elitist "revolutionary" parties, Stratman offers nothing more than a confused, confusing utopianism which all too easily serves as an ideology for elite rule-- which is more or less what Marxism does, in Stratman's view. Old habits die hard.

X341878

Organize!

Preamble to the IWW Constitution

The working class and the employing class have nothing in common. There can be no peace so long as hunger and want are found among millions of the working people and the few, who make up the employing class, have all the good things of life. **Between these two classes** a struggle must go on until the workers of the world organize as a class, take possession of the means of production, abolish the wage system, and live in harmony with the Earth. **We find that** the centering of the management of industries into fewer and fewer hands makes the trade unions unable to cope with the ever-growing power of the employing class. The trade unions foster a state of affairs which allows one set of workers to be pitted against another set of workers in the same industry, thereby helping defeat one another in wage wars. Moreover, the trade unions aid the employing class to mislead the workers into the belief that the working class have interests in common with their employers.

These conditions can be changed and the interest of the working class upheld only by an organization formed in such a way that all its members in any one industry, or in all industries if necessary, cease work whenever a strike or lockout is on in any department thereof, thus making an injury to one an injury to all.

Instead of the conservative motto, "A fair day's wage for a fair day's work," we must inscribe on our banner the revolutionary watchword, "Abolition of the wage system."

It is the historic mission of the working class to do away with capitalism. The army of production must be organized, not only for everyday struggle with capitalists, but also to carry on production when capitalism shall have been overthrown. By organizing industrially we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old.

MUSIC

3 NEW ONES!!!

AS SEEN ON NO TV
Chris Chandler
Funny, biting, young and raw. Chandler sings of the "Whole Wheat Left", growing up in the "Watergate Generation", and laughs at Dan Quayles "Republican Woodstock." More street than studio. Fun.

IT TAKES A LOT OF PEOPLE (tribute to Woody)
Larry Long & Children
Live album of Woody Guthrie songs and songs written by Long and children of Oklahoma as tributes to Woody. "Bound for Glory", "Oh Freedom", & "This Land is Your Land".

I HAVE SEEN FREEDOM
Si Kahn
Long time organizer & folksinger Kahn sings of people and struggle. "John Brown", "El Norte", "They All Sang Bread and Roses" and 13 more songs.

GOOD NEWS
Sweet Honey In the Rock
"Biko", "Chile Your Waters Run Red Through Soweto" and nine others on this gospel based, a cappella, irresistable album by six activist women. ALSO AVAILABLE "WE ALL ... EVERYONE OF US"

DON'T MOURN, ORGANIZE
Compilation of Joe Hill songs and stories. Billy Bragg, Haywire Mac, Paul Robeson and a new song by Mark Levy about the return of Hill's ashes to the IWW in 1988.

ALL USED UP
Utah Phillips
Classic Utah Phillips album. Wobbly songs, bum songs and love songs. "Dump the Bosses Off Your Back", "Pretty Boy Floyd" and 17 more!
ALSO AVAILABLE: "WE HAVE FED YOU ALL FOR ONE THOUSAND YEARS"

OUT OF DARKNESS
Tom Juravich
Coal mining songs from this excellent Philadelphia IWW musician includes "Tell the Boys at Pittson", "Blair Mountain", "Company Store", "Ludlow Massacre". ALSO AVAILABLE: "A WORLD TO WIN".

HAYWIRE MAC
Harry McClintock
Songs and early Wobbly stories from Haywire Mac, friend of Joe Hill and first to sing "Preacher and the Slave" in public.

REBEL VOICES: IU 630 IWW
Exciting live recording captures the high energy of todays IWW musicians. Good music, good politics, and a good time.
Includes Utah Phillips, Faith Petric, Bob Bovee, Marion Wade, Eric Glatz, Kathy Taylor, and more. Twenty IWW tunes "Power in a Union", "The Organizer", "Popular Wobbly", "Mr. Block".

AVAILABLE AGAIN:

SMASH THE STATE AND HAVE A NICE DAY
Citizens Band
A Wobbly band from Olympia Washington. Great stuff. "Red Emma", "Industrial Strength Tranquilizers", "Gas Wars", and "Bullshit."

All cassettes only. $9 each

HARD-PRESSED IN THE HEARTLAND
Peter Rachleff
Rachleff was a participant and observer in the hard fought struggle of P-9 against the Hormel Company and the UFCW. A heartbreaking but empowering story. Though the Hormel strikers lost their strike suggests the necessary outlines for the rebirth of a militant, community based unionism that can succeed where business unions fail. $12

CRYSTAL GAZING THE AMBER FLUID
Carlos Cortez
Long time IWW artist Cortez' poetic take on life in the late 20th century. Poetry expressing the IWW slogan, "Let's make this world a better place to live". $4

REBEL VOICES
Joyce Kornbluh, ed.
Re-issue of Kornbluh's important anthology of early IWW art, articles and songs. Includes a new article on Wobbly cartoons by Franklin Rosemont and an updated bibliography. $22

STRIKE!
Jeremy Brecher
The history of US workers struggle from the workers point of view. Argues that class upsurge is based in everyday life and rank & file initiative. $15

LITTLE RED SONGBOOK
35th edition of famous IWW songbook. Forty classic & new labor songs — for picket lines, union meetings and shop floor. Joe Hill, Phil Ochs and Utah Phillips. Including "There Is Power in a Union", "Pie in the Sky", "The Internationale", and "Solidarity Forever". Back pocket size to carry to picket lines. Picket Line or Joe Hill cover.
$5 each or 4 to 39 $2.50 ea.
Over 40 $2.00 each

JUICE IS STRANGER THAN FRICTION
T-Bone Slim
Funny and irreverent, Slim's popular writings for the *Industrial Worker* of the 20s and 30s are collected here for the first time and introduced by Franklin Rosemont. Hobo, barge captain, and Wobbly.
Working class wit. Says Slim, "Wherever you find injustice, the proper form of politeness is attack." $8

SOLIDARITY UNIONISM
Staughton Lynd
Critical reading for all who care about the future of the labor movement. Lynd offers no easy answers, rather a faith in working people and an argument that building solidarity today means nuturing resistance in the face of corporate power. Looks for ways unions can be incubators of the impulse toward solidarity. $7

BOOKS

SABOTAGE IN THE AMERICAN WORKPLACE
Martin Sprouse, editor
The inside story of modern American work places. Candid and anonymous first person accounts of direct action, rebellion, and sabotage in everyday life and every kind of work place. A book your boss does not want you to read. $12

TIMBER WARS!
Judi Bari
Insightful and inciting front line accounts of IWW-EF! worker-environmental coalition in radical battle with the corporate timber terrorists of the Pacific Northwest. $10

SOLIDARITY FOREVER
Bird, Georgakas & Shaffer
Stories from the early Wobblies told in their own words. Fred Thompson, Frank Cedervall, Phil Melman, Sophie Cohen and two dozen more. A long memory is a dangerous thing $10

WAR AT HOME
Brian Glick
A handbook on resisting FBI repression. Concise descriptions of FBI methods & advice from an activist lawyer on what to do about it. $5

WORKING THE WATERFRONT
Gilbert Mers
Longshoreman and IWW member Gilbert Mers tells the story of his forty two years on the Texas waterfront as a rank and file radical. Workers history as it should be told. Hardcover only. $20

THE GENERAL STRIKE
Ralph Chaplin
Chaplins musical version of IWW preamble has the line: "without our brain & muscle not a single wheel can turn". He expands that idea in this '33 essay on the revolutionary strike. $2

AMERICAN LABOR MOVEMENT
Sam Dolgoff
Veteran house painter, anarchist, and IWW organizer Dolgoff traces the history of libertarian desire & offers his wisdom on energizing a new & radical, rank and file, labor movement. $5

MEMOIRS OF A WOBBLY
Henry McGuckin
The memoirs of a rambling Wobbly organizer of the 1910s. How they hoboed, organized and lived. Free speech fights and "fanning the flames of discontent." $5

Fire Your Boss
IWW

NEW BUTTON
$1 each or $6 a dozen

books & music for rebel workers

available from LOCAL BRANCHES

CANADIAN LITTLE RED SONGBOOK
40 great songs by Arlene Mantle, Rick Fielding, Faith Nolan, Len Wallace & others, with music & chords $5.

Toronto Branch
J. Dymny
11 Andrews Avenue,
Toronto, Ontario
M6J 1S2
Canada

IWW T-shirts
black & red, M,L,XL, 50/50 $14

Out of the Depths
book about Ludlow Massacre $10

Columbine Mermorial Video
(scattering of Joe Hills ashes) $20

Denver/Boulder Branch
2412 E. Colfax,
Denver CO 80206

T-SHIRTS
Sabo-cat
General Strike
Wobbly Globe
Hand-clasping workers

San Francisco Branch
PO Box 40485,
SF CA 94140

$12 ea, 100% cotton, state size S,M,L,XL & color: red or white

New York Branch
RD 1, Box 158-B
Hartwick NY 13348

Workers Guide to Direct Action 75¢
Collective Bargaining Manual $2.50

Support the *Industrial Worker* Sustaining Fund
Organizing needs education and propaganda. The *Industrial Worker* provides a revolutionary point of view on working class struggle that is not available elsewhere.
Help us make the *Industrial Worker* bigger and stronger. Make a donation to the Sustaining Fund, buy a subscription for a friend.

Seeing the revolution as a break with State-dominated society, we cease to be admirers of "progress", usually interpreted as the way things happen to have gone or the unchecked direction in which they are going. We look both backwards and forwards. Backward to the free city and the natural countryside. Forward to the use of technology in its proper place and the liberation of the mind from the superstitions of the past. Backward to the society without rulers imposed by conquest. Forward to the society freed from the domination of government or the principle of exploitation.

Stuart Christie & Albert Meltzer

ORDER FORM:

name ____________________

address ____________________

city ____________ state ______ zip ______

QUANTITY	ITEM	PRICE

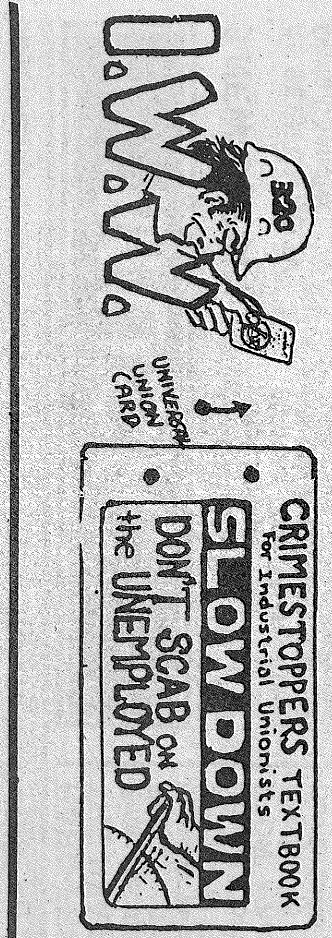
return to:

IWW Lit
1476 W. Irving Park
Chicago, IL 60613

total of above ______

add 10% shipping ______

TOTAL ENCLOSED ______



Left Side

"Killing the natural inquisitiveness out of which learning stems is arguably the worst thing early education does," writes geology professor Kelvin Rodolfo. He says university students are so unused to asking questions that a third of them don't even know how to use question marks! This should come as no surprise, since the educational system emphasizes conformity above all other human behavior. I remember a friend, who was born below the border, saying that because there were no schools where he grew up, most people grew up ignorant. The big difference between down there and up here is, kids here are sent to school to learn how to be ignorant!

Well, how else are you going to condition people to accept all the boob-tube consumerism?

Health Sales Vested

Pennsylvania Blue Shield, the state's largest health insurer, has invested close to $10 million in Phillip Morris Inc. over the last 3 years (*Harrisburg Patriot News*). Talk about vested interests! Those babies know which side of the bread their butter is on, and you can be assured that all their fervent anti-smoking campaigns are conducted with tongue-in-cheek. As long as folks can ruin their health, they can continue to sell health insurance.

Gradual Progress

However, don't anyone say that race relations aren't improving here in Freedomland. Officials in Marion County, South Carolina have finally changed the name of one of its lakes. Certain things take time, however, as you can't rush people too much. The local Chamber of Commerce still lists this lake on its maps for public distribution as "Nigger Lake".

In that same state a billboard company was criticized for chopping down a stand of half-century old pine trees along I-26 near Charleston. The executive of Classic Outdoor Advertising said, "We lease billboards, and if you can't see them, you can't sell them." Lest the gentle reader take exception with such crass sentiments, remember what your early education prepared you for. You damn well better prefer billboards to trees. Trees ain't going to encourage you to buy anything!

War Tactics Okay/Not Okay

Our politicians in Freedomland have been waxing with righteous indignation over what is transpiring in the former Federation of Jugoslavija. Our top banana himself is concerned over the shooting of civilians and raping of women, and is talking about sending some of Freedomlands youth over there to put things in order. A brief perusal of history discloses that terrorizing innocent civilians and raping women is a military tactic of long standing. Of course this tactic is not found in manuals of military etiquette, with the possible exception of the Good Book itself. One has only to delve into the pages of the Old Testicle where the Lord on High Himself exhorts his chosen people "to spare and take onto themselves those women and girls who have not known men." Look it up! Its right in there along with "leave not a stone upon a stone."

Your scribe decries rape as much as do our worthy politicians, but wonders why our worthies say nothing about the very same thing taking place in Burma.

According to *Synapses Messages* the Burmese Army is doing some of its own "ethnic cleansing" (what Georgie Custer's calvary was doing out on the Plains last century). One incident is cited where a 16 year-old woman was abducted by the Burmese army and her corpse was found later where she had bled to death from sexual assault. Many other such incidents are cited and one cannot help but wonder -- do our politicians labor under the delusion that the Burmese army is more humanitarian than the Serb army and less deserving of criticism?

Synapses Messages

Synapses Messages is published by the group Synapses, 1821 W. Cullerton Ave, Chicago IL 60608. It is a very informative newsletter with things that never get in conventional print or broadcast media. There is no fixed price on the newsletter but donations are always welcome. This is a good bunch of people who yours truly recommends in good conscience.

This newsletter mentions "destabilization" taking place in Mozambique, where over a million people have been killed and 2 million displaced. The culprit is an organization called RENAMO, originally created to maintain White supremacy rule in what is now Zimbabwe. When the White supremacists found it to their best interests to high-tail it to other parts, South Africa took over control of RENAMO, with support of right wing political and religious groups in Freedomland. There are still 3 million unexploded mines in Mozambique, many made by companies here in Freedomland. So you know where some of your withholding taxes are being put to use.

It would be nice to live in a society where instead of paying taxes you would only have to pay union dues!

--C.C. Redcloud

Industrial Worker
1095 Market St. Suite 204
San Francisco, CA 94103
ISSN 0019-8870

Second Class Postage
Paid
San Francisco, CA
and additional
mailing offices

Address Correction Requested

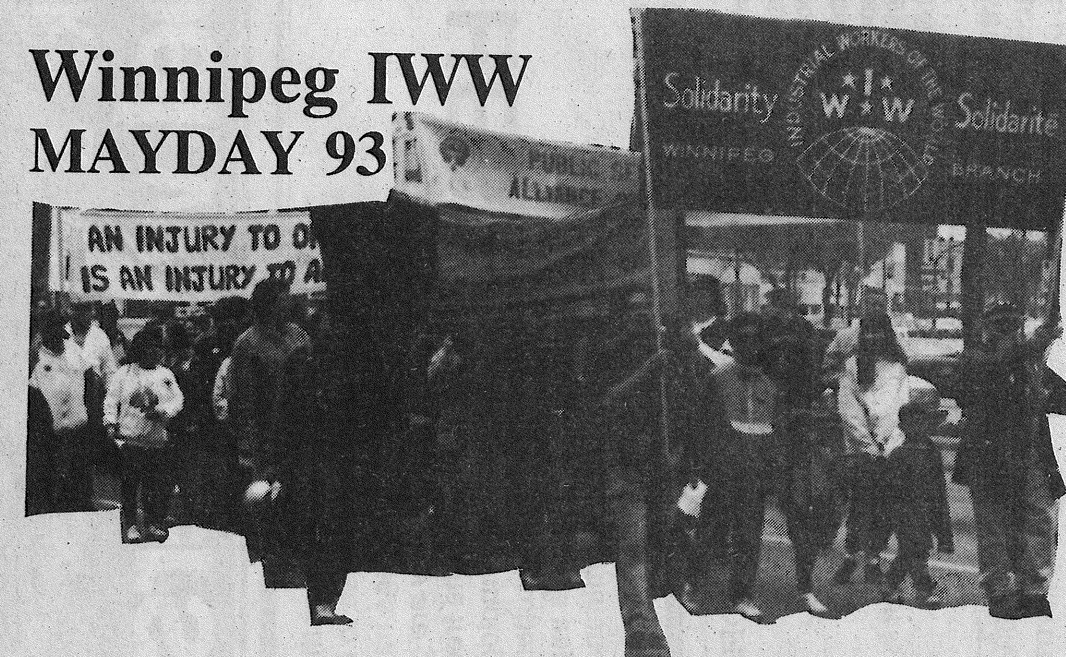
all workers * all industries

INDUSTRIAL WORKER

Education Organization Emancipation

vol. 90 no. 1561 JULY 1993 ONE DOLLAR

Winnipeg IWW MAYDAY 93

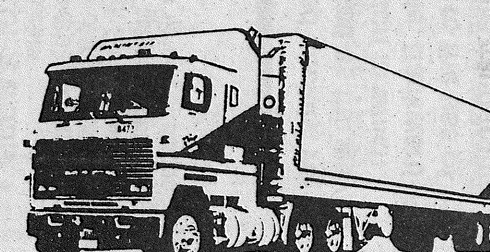


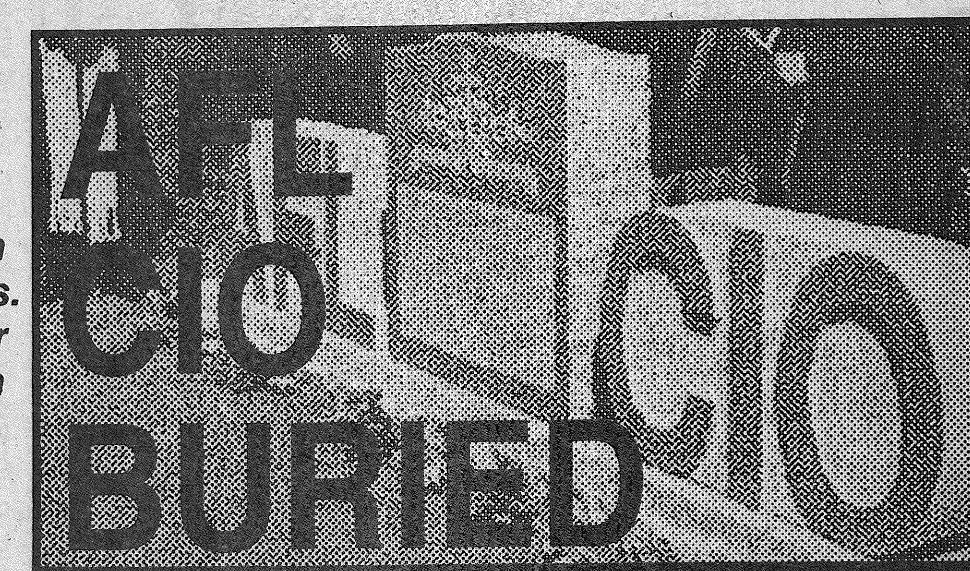
4 - FORD MEXICO WORKERS & SOLIDARITY

1 - LOS ANGELES IWW FORMS SHOP

Truckin' to Reality 3

Free Trade depends on mass transport of goods. A long haul truck driver describes conditions in this fast-growing industry





Wage Slave World News

satire section